

## Clinton Weighs U.S. Troops for Bosnia Enclaves

By Ann Devroy  
and Ruth Marcus  
*Washington Post Service*  
WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton said Thursday that European opposition to his arm-and-strike proposal to Bosnia had forced him to re-examine options he previously had discarded, such as adding U.S. troops to the international force protecting civilian enclaves or using air strikes alone.

Mr. Clinton's first description of his military proposal, his deep unwillingness to try to lead a U.S. military effort in hopes the Europeans will follow, and the sense that the Clinton administration finds it has made little progress on Bosnia.

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TODDLERS HELD HOSTAGE NEAR PARIS — A mother carrying her child from a nursery school in the Paris suburb of Neuilly-sur-Seine on Thursday after he was released by a gunman who seized 21 children and their teacher. He was demanding a ransom of \$18.4 million. Fourteen of the children were freed by nighttime. Page 2.

## All Eyes Are on Japan on Eve of Trade Session

By Peter Behr  
*Washington Post Service*  
WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration and the European Community are tearing up to seek major trade concessions from Japan to a new global trading agreement, U.S. and EC officials say.

A deep reduction to industrial tariffs and other trade barriers by these major economic powers is now seen as the carrot that triggers other market-opening steps by the nearly 100 other members of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, breaking the impasse that has blocked the negotiations in Geneva for more than six years.

Recent talks headed by the U.S. trade representative, Mickey Kantor, and the EC trade commissioner, Sir Leon Brittan, have brought them close to a major agreement on mutual tariff reductions, officials said.

The United States wants to eliminate tariffs in such important industrial product areas as electronics, pharmaceuticals, wood and paper products and farm equipment. The Community is pressing the administration to bring down high tariffs on a small number of vulnerable but, politically influential American industries, such as shoes and glassware.

## Senate Removes Andreotti's Immunity

By Alan Cowell  
*New York Times Service*  
ROME — The Italian Senate voted by a show of hands Thursday to strip the seven-time prime minister, Giulio Andreotti, of immunity from investigation into charges of Mafia association, even as law enforcement agencies rounded up scores of mobsters from all three of the country's principal organized crime gangs.

"As confident as I am of earthly justice, the tranquility of my conscience rests on the rests on the certainty that there is a higher tribunal, the tribunal of God," he told fellow senators.



Mr. Andreotti listening to Senate debate Thursday over the lifting of his immunity.

## Kiosk

UN to Pull Out 286 From Iraq  
GENEVA (AP) — The United Nations will start withdrawing guards protecting Kurds in northern Iraq because of a lack of funds, a UN official said Thursday. Fifty guards will be pulled out Friday and Saturday, and the rest of the 236 will be withdrawn in stages unless member states give more money.

Bridge	Page 8
Dow Jones	34.32
S&P 500	3,447.89
Dollar	1.616
New York	1.615
London	1.615
Paris	1.622
Yen	111.85
FF	5.461

## Peseta's Devaluation Shows New Cracks In EC Currency Plan

By Richard W. Stevenson  
*New York Times Service*  
LONDON — Europe's smallest monetary system was shaken again Thursday when Spain and Portugal reduced the value of their currencies, casting additional doubt on the European Community's plans to forge closer economic links.

The Bank of France cut its intervention rate, which sets the floor for money market rates, to 7.75 percent from 8 percent, Reuters reported from Paris. It also lowered its five-to-10-day rate, which acts as an interest rate ceiling, by a quarter-point to 8.75 percent.

## Crisis Arms Denmark's Maastricht Supporters

By Tom Buerkle  
*International Herald Tribune*  
COPENHAGEN — Europe's latest currency crisis gave the Danish government fresh ammunition in its campaign for approval in Tuesday's referendum of the Treaty on European Union.

The government has waged a largely defensive campaign for support of the Maastricht treaty, warning that a repeat of June's rejection would prompt a run against the krona, force up interest rates and drive the economy into recession.

## Airlines Move to Switch Off Passengers' Gadgets

By Adam Bryant  
*New York Times Service*  
NEW YORK — American Airlines will join the growing number of carriers that have banned the use of laptop computers, compact-disk players and other electronic devices during takeoffs and landings. The policy underlines an emerging safety issue in which questions outnumber answers.

At least one carrier, Swissair, has reported that the disruptions then recurred when the CD players were turned on again.

Because American is the largest U.S. carrier, its policy, which it hopes to put into effect by July, is expected to draw new attention to a debate among airline-safety experts over whether the radio signals that all such devices emit can indeed throw off compasses and other instruments.

United Airlines, for example, allows the use of computers and the like during most of a flight, but Northwest in March restricted the use of such devices at altitudes below 10,000 feet (3,000 meters), as will American. Most airlines ask passengers to stow their computers under their seats.

## Talks on Palestinians End Without Decision

Isrealis and Palestinians have ended their ninth round of peace talks without reaching an agreement on principles of Palestinian self-rule in West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The United States intervened directly in the talks for the first time and presented a paper trying to bridge the differences on self-rule. Washington had bargained since December to persuade the Palestinians to resume the talks, and was determined that this round should produce a result after 18 months of haggling.

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# STATESIDE / THE JOBS BILL, AGAIN

## Clinton's Shrinking Jobs Plan

By Eric Pianin  
*Washington Post Service*

WASHINGTON — With time running out, the Clinton administration has offered congressional Democrats yet another suggestion for salvaging its jobs program, this time a \$900 million version, about one-eighth the size of its original plan.

A day earlier, the White House suggested a nearly \$4 billion proposal, but that one got a cool reception from Senate Democratic leaders and some Democrats in the House who guide appropriations.

Republicans, meanwhile, have offered their own proposal, which they say would create 800,000 jobs.

The latest Democratic proposal, which includes \$300 million for summer jobs, \$200 million to enable cities to hire additional police officers and \$400 million for wastewater treatment projects of the Environmental Protection Agency, was said by some to show the administration's desperation.

"It's getting to be ludicrous," said a House Democratic source familiar with the negotiations.

The \$900 million plan, proposed

as part of a 1993 supplemental spending bill awaiting action by the House Appropriations Committee, would be paid for with offsetting, across-the-board cuts in other domestic programs.

The administration is trying to come up with a plan that does not add to the 1993 deficit, in order to satisfy Senate Republicans.

The chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, William H. Natcher, Democrat of Kentucky, and his Senate counterpart, Robert C. Byrd, Democrat of West Virginia, have asserted that approving a jobs bill that did not involve deficit spending would do virtually nothing to stimulate the economy.

Other critics believe that it is getting so late in the fiscal year that even if a bill were adopted in the next few weeks, it would make no appreciable difference in this summer's employment outlook.

However, the White House, anxious to pacify big-city Democratic supporters, and the House speaker, Thomas S. Foley, Democrat of Washington, continue to press for a compromise. Mr. Foley is coming

under mounting pressure from liberal Democratic House members to push through a scaled-back version of the original \$16.3 billion jobs bill adopted by the House.

An aide to Mr. Foley said Wednesday that the leadership was concerned that unless it offered another jobs package, it ran the risk of losing crucial Democratic support for the overall budget and tax bill, which is to come to a vote later this month in the House.

**Republicans Offer Plan**

Senate Republicans unveiled a package of tax breaks Wednesday that they said would create 800,000 jobs. The Associated Press reported from Washington.

The plan, in stark contrast to Mr. Clinton's proposal, proposes \$36.6 billion worth of tax cuts for businesses, the well-to-do and holders of individual retirement accounts.

The tax breaks would be more than offset by \$45.7 billion worth of spending cuts, mostly by reducing administrative expenses, reducing payments to retired government workers, and cutting transportation projects and foreign aid.

## ★ POLITICAL NOTES ★

### An Issue of Trust, Hotly Debated

WASHINGTON — Congressional Democrats leapt to President Bill Clinton's defense after Republicans harshly criticized his plan to create a deficit-reduction trust fund.

The White House said the proposal proved Mr. Clinton's commitment to limiting government debt. Republicans called it a public-relations ploy that would have no real effect on cutting the deficit.

"This idea takes the blue ribbon as the most genuinely phony proposal I have ever seen on the American budget," said Senator Phil Gramm, Republican of Texas. "I think this is a transparent attempt to mislead the American people."

But the House speaker, Thomas S. Foley, Democrat of Washington, said the fund would help persuade people "that taxes that will be levied are exclusively for the purpose of deficit reduction."

The chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, Jim Sasser, Democrat of Tennessee, noted that the budget plan approved by Congress last month already contained caps making it hard for lawmakers to drive up the deficit.

But he said: "President Clinton is attempting to assure the American people that all of his proposed tax increases will go toward reducing the deficit. That is a laudable goal." (AP)

### Reno Pushes Abortion Clinic Bill

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Janet Reno has urged Congress to move swiftly to make violence or threats against abortion providers and women seeking abortions a federal offense.

Testifying before the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, Ms. Reno asserted that the legislation would not threaten the free-speech rights of abortion foes.

She said it was needed because "in recent years, anti-abortion activists have increased the intensity of their activities from picketing to physical blockades, sabotage of facilities, stalking and harassing abortion providers, arson, bombing" and the murder of a doctor at a Florida abortion clinic.

The hearing produced little direct criticism of the bill, introduced by Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, who heads the committee. (NYT)

### Quote/Unquote

Ellie McCully, who had brought her son to see Bill Clinton when the president visited New York: "Why isn't there more of a crowd? When the Pope came to town, every street was packed with people — and there was torrential rain." (NYT)



Mr. Clinton at a Democratic fund-raising dinner in New York.

## Company Pensions Vanishing in U.S.

By David A. Vise  
*Washington Post Service*

WASHINGTON — Millions of American workers will lack the money to support themselves as they grow older because of a drastic decline in the popularity of company-provided pensions, according to interviews with dozens of experts and several recent studies.

The rapid demise of pensions, one of the most profound changes in retirement benefits in decades, is the latest example of companies transferring financial risks and costs to their employees.

For decades, thousands of American companies provided employees with pensions. But in the last several years, large firms have embraced savings plans that rely heavily on voluntary employee contributions.

In addition, most small and midsize companies — which have created most of the new jobs in recent years — have abandoned pension plans, opting for savings plans or no retirement benefits at all.

The major problem, experts said, is that many employees do not participate in savings plans. And among those who do, many withdraw their money and spend it while they are still working, leaving little if any funds for retirement.

"This trend away from pensions is going to dramatically increase the number of older Americans who cannot make ends meet in retirement," said Karen Ferguson, director of the Washington-based Pension Rights Center. "It is a shocking trend, it is recognized by everybody in the pension community, but nobody is speaking out about it."

J. Carter Beese Jr., a Securities and Exchange Commission member who has been studying the shift, agreed that the heavy reliance on what are called 401(k) savings plans will produce major problems as baby boomers approach retirement age.

Many employees, faced with a choice between voluntary saving for retirement and what they perceive as more pressing needs — from buying a new car to paying the mortgage, medical bills, education and vacation expenses — choose not to participate in their 401(k) savings plans, he said.

By the time they reach their late 40s or early 50s and begin worrying about retirement, it is usually too late for them to amass enough savings in 401(k) plans, he said.

"A whole generation of people are going to wake up years from now and say, 'God, I wish I had known when I was 32 that I should have been putting this money in,'" said Myron Mintz, chairman of the federal Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp.'s advisory committee and a partner at the Washington law firm of Dickstein, Shapiro & Morin.

At Apple Computer Inc. — where more than 90 percent of employees participate in a 401(k) plan — many have withdrawn funds and spent them on housing and other items while they are still working.

In California, where Apple is based, "housing costs are so high and tax rates are high," said Sherrin Grabot, manager of the 401(k) plan at Apple. "People need something to give them a tax break in the short run so they can save for the house. Out here where real estate values appreciate faster than anything but medical costs, that is not necessarily a bad thing."

Mr. Beese disagrees. "The baby boomers are leasing a lifestyle from the last third of their life," he said. "If you are going to use retirement assets to fund current consumption, you are leasing from your future standard of living."

The growing cost and complexity of federal regulation of pension plans is one of the main reasons many companies now shun them.

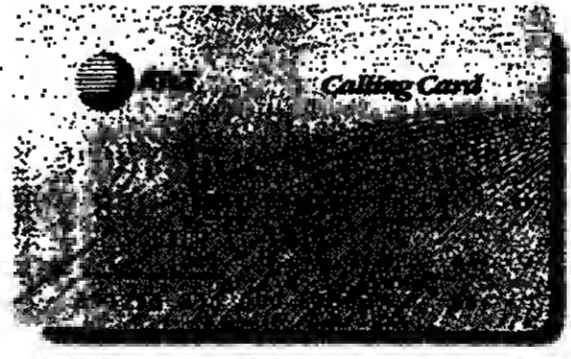
Virtually all major employers offer 401(k) savings plans and their popularity has increased so much in the past decade that they now cover more than 36 million active workers, roughly 10 million more than are covered by traditional pension plans, according to David George Ball, assistant labor secretary under President George Bush and is a partner with the Williams, Mullin, Christian & Dobbins law firm.

Mr. Ball calls traditional pension plans "dinosaurs" and says the shift to 401(k) plans especially benefits employers who change jobs frequently. Traditional pension plans tend to favor those who stay with a single employer for many years. Many of the large employers offering employees both types of plans are putting most of their new retirement dollars into savings plans, he said.

## Away From Politics

- About 200 would-be Chinese immigrants on a rusty, leaking trawler came ashore Wednesday in San Diego. The vessel, the second such boat to reach the West Coast in recent weeks, was forced to dock by the Coast Guard. Officials said the 200 undocumented immigrants had paid between \$8,000 and \$20,000 to make the voyage.
- Sunscreens and tanning products should carry warnings on the dangers of sun exposure, the Food and Drug Administration proposed. It also urged that cosmetic products that only promote tanning, but do not screen against the harmful rays, caution that they do not protect against sunburn. "There is overwhelming evidence that overexposure to radiation from the sun is a health hazard," the agency head, David A. Kessler, said.
- Bulldozers rolled across the rubble of the compound of the Branch Davidian cult near Waco, Texas, prompting complaints from the lawyer of a person killed in the fiery end to a standoff with federal agents. Jack Zimmermann, the lawyer for Steve Schneider, said the bulldozing would hamper independent investigation of the site. The compound burned to the ground April 19, killing 86 people.
- A former San Francisco police officer pleaded not guilty to charges of stealing government documents and conspiracy. Tom Gerard, 50, is suspected of passing confidential police information to a San Francisco art dealer, Roy Bullock. According to court papers, he in turn sold information to South African agents and was also in the pay of the Anti-Defamation League, a Jewish group. Investigators say they collected information on rightist groups, apartheid foes, Arab activists and anti-Jewish groups. Mr. Bullock has not been charged and denies wrongdoing.
- Laws that would have revoked licenses in Virginia of suspected drunk drivers and increased penalties for illegal buyers of pistols have been killed in a squabble between Governor L. Douglas Wilder and the General Assembly. Legislative leaders asserted that the governor signed an invalid version of the drunken driving bill. The gun bills died in a dispute over amendments. LAT, AP, Reuters, WP

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Herald Tribune

Swearing Off the Bomb

While there was little doubt in the 1980s that South Africa was working on nuclear weapons, the full story turns out to be much more disturbing. Building them was not terribly difficult. It was costly, but far from prohibitive even for a small country with a national economy half the size of Mexico's.

Hit Men From Colombia

Fourteen months have passed since Colombian drug lords murdered Manuel de Dios Umanes in New York City for writing mocking stories about the drug trade. As time slipped by, anguished friends and family asserted that police were dragging their feet because Mr. de Dios was from the Spanish-language press and little known to the English-speaking audience.

Low-Paid and Neglected

The Ways and Means Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives was asked to choose the other day between protecting the old-age and disability benefits of tens of thousands of low-paid domestic workers and making life easier for these workers' employers.

Other Comment

Change Goes On in Mexico

Some members of Mexico's ruling party, the PRI, tried to pull a fast one (last week) in the southern state of Yucatan. The local PRI-controlled legislature and governor tried to postpone elections scheduled for November, fearing that a contested election could adversely affect their party's just prior to the selection of its presidential candidate.

American Protection Worked for Kurds

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — Remember those gut-wrenching pictures two years ago of Kurdish villagers fleeing the wrath of the defeated Saddam Hussein, tearfully abandoning their homes, children freezing in the snow?



Americans Welcome

The soft-spoken Mr. Barzani, 46, son of the legendary Mullah Mustafa and father of eight, is not pushy; he observes the taboo about talking of independence. But on the urgent need for economic and diplomatic aid, even after all the top-level meetings in Washington, he says, "I have no answers for my people."

Divide Them and Leave Reunion for Calmer Times

By Gregory Clark

TOKYO — While the tragedy in Bosnia continued, a miracle unfolded recently in Singapore — the first round of formal reconciliation talks between Taiwan and Beijing.

Reasons Not to Make Too Much of Clinton's Early Poll Results

By Kevin Phillips

WASHINGTON — From broken promises to tax giveaways and overemphasis of gay rights, President Bill Clinton's early campaign has been more than adequate.

Oman and Yemen: Good News From the Arabian Peninsula

By Philip Bowring

MUSCAT, Oman — Good news is a rare commodity in the geopolitics of the Middle East. So some positive developments around the southern shores of the Arabian Peninsula merit attention and support — both for their own sake and for their impact on a region obsessed with old rivalries and neighborhood grievances.

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Tel. (11) 46.93.00, Telex, Circulation, 612023; Production, 630695.
Paris office: Tel. 1.42.33.1421, Telex 21010.
Chicago office: Tel. 312.421.1100, Telex 21010.
Circulation Director: Robert Farré
Editor for Asia: Michael Richardson
5 Carpenter Rd., Singapore 0511. Tel. 477-7388. Telex 959625
Head Office: 1100 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10036. Tel. 212-512-2000. Telex 21010
London office: Tel. 01-874-6000. Telex 262009
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Printed in U.S.A. by The Associated Press, New York, N.Y. 10036. Tel. (212) 512-2000. Telex 21010
S.A. on capital of 1,200,000 F. RCS Nanterre B. 2101017. Comptroller Paris: No. 61337
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OPINION

Steady, Humane and Lucid: An Exemplary Intellectual

By E. J. Dionne Jr.

WASHINGTON — Few relationships are more perilous or complicated than the one between intellectuals and politics. Intellectuals can be far more dangerous than the run-of-the-mill "special interest group" seeking some subsidy or tax break. Everybody understands narrow self-interest and can deal with it.

True, intellectuals can also behave like any interest group in making special claims for government help to the arts or universities. But intellectuals looking for money pose no particular difficulty to the republic. The danger to and from intellectuals arises when they act from higher motives, when they try to transform the world to make it accord with their ideas.

Three traps await intellectuals in the political arena. The most common transforms intellectuals into apologists for any regime that makes a show of taking their ideas seriously. In this case, intellectuals give up their independence.

The second trap is more insidious: Intellectuals can become so convinced of the rightness of their prescriptions that they come to justify almost anything to achieve their ends. "You have to break eggs to make an omelet" is the classic rationalization and tortuous justification, imprisonment and torture.

The third trap is the opposite of the second, but its snares are woven from the same arrogance: Intellectuals can become so disdainful of the messiness of any human society that they withdraw from politics entirely. Beneath the surface here is the anti-democratic notion that average people are incapable even of understanding the "higher things" to which intellectuals aspire.

Intellectuals who avoid all these traps are usually model democrats and exemplary human beings worthy of celebration. One of them, Irving Howe, died last week at the age of 72.

Mr. Howe spent his life as a dissenter, and gave that word an extra meaning. The magazine he started in 1954, *Dissent*, became a rallying point for a democratic left whose hallmark was the imperative of democracy — the faith in the capacity of ordinary citizens to run things — must never take a back seat to somebody else's glorious ideal or brilliant idea.

Mr. Howe began his political life as a follower of Leon Trotsky. Trotsky was hardly a saint of democracy, and his followers were capable of extraordinary feats of sectarian narrowness. But their preference for Trotsky over Stalin immunized them against apologies for outrages committed in communism's name.

Hatred of Stalinism led many Trotskyists to conservatism, but Mr. Howe moved to a socialism that was less a fixed system than an ideal embodying equality and democracy. For Mr. Howe, "the working class" was not an abstraction. It consisted of real human beings whose aspirations mattered more than the comforts of apparatus or the wealthy.

This apparent idealism proved to be a more practical guide to the future than a view that held ordinary people incapable of extraordinary things. Mr. Howe never believed that Communist dictators could maintain power indefinitely by force, and he said so in the early 1950s, as the Soviets were tightening their hold on Eastern Europe.

The rise of Solidarity in Poland gave Mr. Howe, a friend of trade unions, special joy. "Here was evidence that men and women would not simply crumble into passivity under the weight of dictatorship," he wrote in 1982.

"Here was reason to call into question theories that held totalitarianism inviolable, at least short of nuclear war. And here was the exhilarating spectacle of a young and inexperienced working class asserting itself with strength and spirit."

It is no accident, as the Marxists say, that Mr. Howe is best known to the wider public not as a socialist but as the author of "World of Our Fathers," his best-selling history of the East European Jewish immigration to the United States.

For Mr. Howe, politics could never be the most important thing. One struggled for justice in order to allow culture to flower freely, independent of the pressures of the state or the imperatives of the market. His love for Judaism's treasures was rooted in the view that both high art and genuine popular culture create a margin of freedom even under the most oppressive conditions.

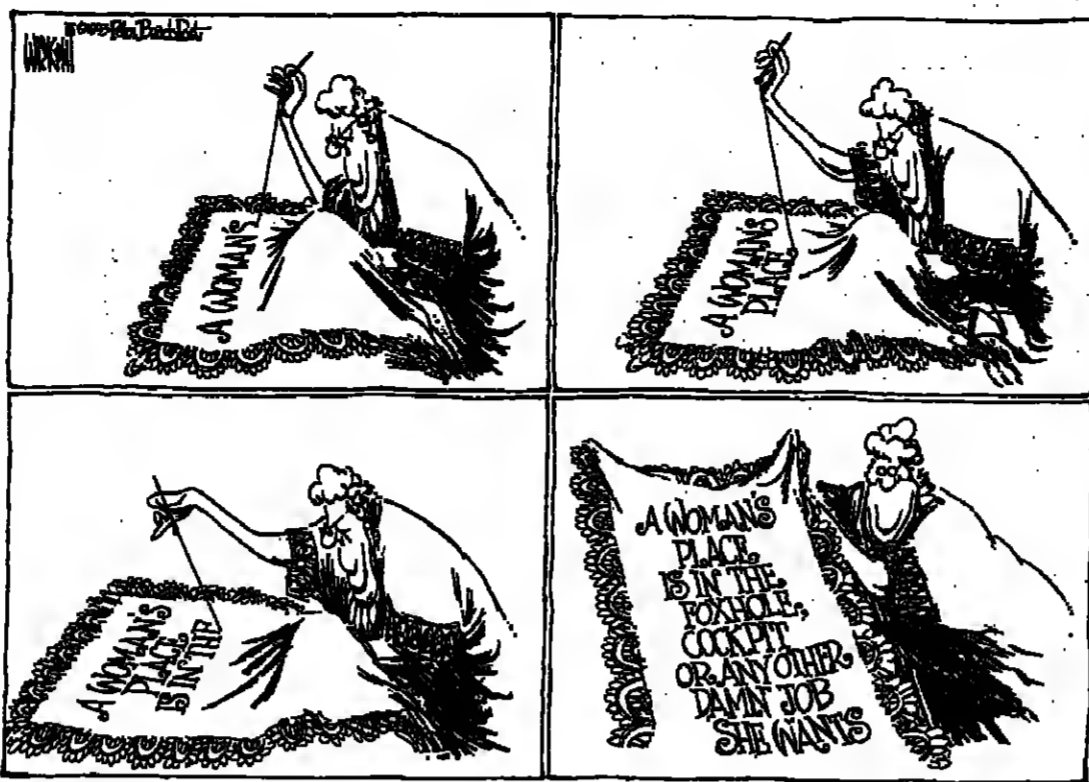
By trade, Mr. Howe was a literary critic, not a pamphleteer, and he shared George Orwell's view that a writer's obligations were paradoxical: To be engaged in politics and to remain free of its chains. "A writer who devotes himself exclusively to politics courts the dangers of dryness, the mental undernourishment of journalism," Mr. Howe wrote. "Isn't there always a shrinkage of imaginative power when an 'engaged' writer submits to the political moment?"

Those who paid attention to Mr. Howe and to such comrades as the late Michael Harrington never fell for the intellectual fashions that so consumed others. Mr. Howe rejected the New Left cults of youth and expressive violence in the '60s, the cults of Castro and Ho Chi Minh and Mao, the cult of self-centered self-improvement in the '70s, the cult of capitalist utopianism in the '80s. One of his books was entitled "Steady Work." Moral steadfastness was his virtue.

He knew at the end of his life that socialism was in crisis. His attitude was: When wasn't it? The point was to maintain critical hope, to test other systems according to the standards of "the utopia of community and egalitarianism."

"Whatever the fate of socialism," he wrote in 1985, "the yearning for a better mode of life, which found expression in its thought and its struggle, will reappear. Of that I am certain." Nonsocialists, too, should hope that he was right.

The Washington Post



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UN Failure in Cambodia

Regarding "Empower the UN to Block Khmer Rouge Anarchy" (Opinion, April 17) by Clare Hollingworth:

The United Nations has done little to improve the situation in Cambodia. In fact, it is now paying for its own mistakes. For a decade the United Nations provided the Khmer Rouge much needed legitimacy after the Vietnamese chased them out of Cambodia. Now the world body has provided them the fig leaf for complete legitimacy as a part of the Supreme National Council, a body recognized by the international community.

Even as the Khmer Rouge refuse to abide by the terms of the Paris accords, the United Nations has yet to take any steps other than toothless sanctions that cannot be enforced. UN peacekeepers have been unable to stop open violations by the Khmer Rouge and the regular massacres of the ethnic Vietnamese.

Clare Hollingworth wants the United Nations to be given more powers to block the Khmer Rouge. But what would be the purpose of empowering combat-sty UN troops when force will have to be used? The number of casualties in the event of a military showdown with the Khmer Rouge could run into hundreds. Is any country providing peacekeepers ready to take that risk?

M. ELAHLI, Ottawa.

Bosnia and the Precedent

The more I read about the Bosnia conflict and the feeble efforts and verbal threats by the West to halt the carnage, the more I am reminded of the Hitler

days before Winston Churchill took charge. If the Serbs should one day sign the agreement, I can just see Lord Owen holding the signed paper high above his head and declaring it proof of world peace, just as Neville Chamberlain did in London on his return from his voyage to Munich where Hitler put his signature to a worthless piece of paper. All it did was to allow Hitler more time.

PETER MANASSE, Monte Carlo.

Regarding "Realities Dictate a Limited Approach in Bosnia" (April 27) by Senator Nancy London Kassebaum of Kansas:

How can anyone believe that "an international force focused on the delivery of humanitarian relief in safe zones" would really change the situation in Bosnia? Continued humanitarian aid deliveries to people who are being systematically massacred is like delivering food to Jews starving in Nazi death camps. At least they will die with full stomachs.

DOUGLAS TURNER, Brussels.

The Chinese Commitment

Regarding "The More, the Wealthier" (Opinion, May 7):

Hard though it may be for the editorial writer of the Far Eastern Economic Review to imagine life outside economics, he or she might consider the impact of uncontrolled population growth on future supplies of food, clean air and fresh water. He will have noticed that the Chinese are determined people and should ask himself why such formidable pragmatists practice stringent population control. He might find their meth-

ods a touch old-fashioned, but he can be certain that they are committed.

Sr. NICHOLAS NUTTALL, Gstaad, Switzerland.

Keep a Light on East Timor

I commended Philip Shenon's excellent portrayal of the situation in East Timor, "Repression as Legacy of Timor Killings" (April 22). Although Indonesia invaded and annexed East Timor in 1975, the United Nations has not recognized its claims to sovereignty over the territory. Hence, the deadline of the article should have been "Dili, East Timor" — and definitely not "Dili, Indonesia."

Under international law, East Timor is an occupied territory, just like the West Bank and Gaza. Mr. Shenon also refers to the independence fighters of East Timor as "separatists." The East Timorese seeking independence are not "separatists" because East Timor was never a part of Indonesia.

MARGHERITA TRACANELLI, Media and Communications Director, National Council of Maubere Resistance, Sydney.

A Welcome Byline

I am always pleased to see Michiko Kakutani's byline, because I know that what follows will be informative and very well written. "Down With History, Down With Truth" (Meanwhile, May 4) is another example of the writer's lucid, elegant prose. This is journalism of a high caliber, more important today than ever.

SUSAN C. SECZARBA, Malhouse, France.

So Biodiversity Is Doomed? Let's Take a Cool Recount

By Julian Simon and Aaron Wildavsky

OAKLAND, California — A fair reading of the available data suggests a rate of species extinction not even one-thousandth as great as doomsayers claim. If the rate were any lower, evolution itself would need to be questioned. The World Wildlife Fund, the main proponent of alarm about biodiversity and the extinction of species, frames the issue in the starkest terms: "Without firing a shot, we may kill one-fifth of all species of life on this planet in the next 10

1900 to the present (about one a year). Mr. Myers abruptly departs from those modest estimates and goes on to say that some scientists have "hazarded a guess" that the extinction rate "could now have reached" 100 species a year. This pure conjecture about an upper limit of present extinction of species is then increased and used by Mr. Myers and Mr. Lovejoy as the basis for the projections quoted everywhere.

In fact, Mr. Lovejoy — after converting an estimated species limit into a simple estimate — says that government inaction is "likely to lead" to the extinction of 14 to 20 percent of all species before the year 2000.

Mr. Lovejoy's extinction rate, which is a thousand times greater than the observed rate, is pure guesswork. Yet it is widely published and erroneously viewed as scientific fact.

In articles in the mid-1990s in *New Scientist* magazine, in newspapers, in books and at conferences, both of us have documented the complete absence of evidence for the claim that the extinction of species is going up rapidly — or even going up at all.

No one has disputed our documentation. Nor has anyone cited new evidence that would demonstrate rapid extinction. Instead, until recently, the biologists sounding the alarm simply ignored the data that challenged their claims.

But recently the World Conservation Union published an inquiry into the extent of extinctions, "Tropical Deforestation and Species Extinction." Every author included agreed that the rate of known extinctions has been and continues to be very low. One wrote: "Forests of the eastern United States were reduced over two centuries to fragments totaling 0.5 percent of their original extent. . . . During this destruction, only three forest birds went extinct."

We are delighted that this species of truth, which we thought was dead, is stirring into life. Governments should heed this astonishing scientific assessment. We are not suggesting that they ignore the possible dangers to species. But everyone should start from an unbiased view of the gains and losses in order to help judge how much time and money to spend guarding our biological assets.

Mr. Simon is professor of business at the University of Maryland. Mr. Wildavsky is professor of political science at the University of California. They contributed this comment to *The New York Times*.

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

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# NYSE

Thursday's Closing  
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

NYSE  
New York Stock Exchange

Symbol	Price	Change
IBM	100.00	+0.25
MSFT	45.00	+0.50
ORCL	25.00	+0.10
GOOG	150.00	+1.00
AMZN	10.00	+0.15
EBAY	15.00	+0.20
SHOP	12.00	+0.10
WAL	18.00	+0.15
DIS	22.00	+0.10
WMT	15.00	+0.10
CVS	12.00	+0.10
UNH	18.00	+0.15
MRK	25.00	+0.10
LLY	15.00	+0.10
ABB	12.00	+0.10
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**THE TRIB INDEX**

**STREET WATCH**

**Shareholder Revolt**

**A Job at Dillon R**

**CURRENCY**

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Inflation Punishes Stocks and Bonds

NEW YORK—Stock and bond investors took flight Thursday, with the notable exception of the precious-metal mining stocks, which extended their recent gains after the second straight U.S. report of rising prices.

The Dow Jones industrial average slumped 34.32 points, to 3,447.99, tumbling from the record close of Wednesday. Losing issues outnumbered gainers on the New York Stock Exchange by an 8-to-3 ratio. Most major market indexes mirrored the Dow's loss, but the American Stock Exchange index was down just 0.52, to 427.91, reflecting that bourse's concentration of mining issues.

The 30-year Treasury bond fell 1/32, to 102 5/32, pushing its yield up to 6.95 percent from 6.85 percent on Wednesday. After a worrisome report that consumer prices rose 0.4 percent in April, the Treasury found weak demand for its long bond.

Dollar Gains Support On U.S. Rate Outlook

NEW YORK—The dollar advanced Thursday against most major currencies after the U.S. government reported a bigger-than-expected gain in the inflation rate and improved retail sales in April.

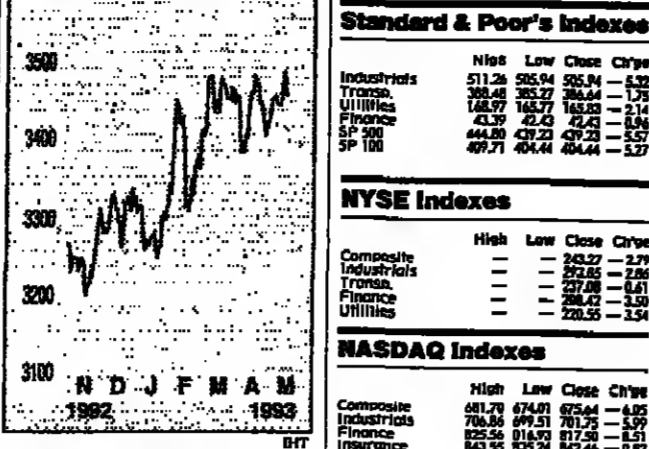
Gold Rises \$7.50 an Ounce

NEW YORK—Gold closed sharply higher on the Commodity Exchange on Thursday but below its peak for the day, as profit-taking set in toward the end of the session.

World Stock Markets

Table of world stock markets including Amsterdam, Brussels, Frankfurt, London, Madrid, Milan, Paris, Sao Paulo, Singapore, Stockholm, Toronto, Zurich, and others.

The Dow



NYSE Most Active

Table of NYSE most active stocks including Amgen, Amgen, Amgen, etc.

AMEX Most Active

Table of AMEX most active stocks including Amgen, Amgen, Amgen, etc.

NYSE Diary

Table of NYSE diary entries including Amgen, Amgen, Amgen, etc.

AMEX Diary

Table of AMEX diary entries including Amgen, Amgen, Amgen, etc.

NASDAQ Diary

Table of NASDAQ diary entries including Amgen, Amgen, Amgen, etc.

Dow Jones Averages

Table of Dow Jones averages including Industrials, Finance, NYSE, etc.

Standard & Poor's Indexes

Table of Standard & Poor's indexes including Industrials, Finance, NYSE, etc.

NYSE Indexes

Table of NYSE indexes including Composite, Finance, Utilities, etc.

NASDAQ Indexes

Table of NASDAQ indexes including Composite, Finance, Utilities, etc.

AMEX Stock Index

Table of AMEX stock index including High, Low, Close, etc.

Dow Jones Bond Averages

Table of Dow Jones bond averages including 30 Year, 10 Year, etc.

Market Sales

Table of market sales including NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, etc.

N.Y.S.E. Odd-Lot Trading

Table of N.Y.S.E. odd-lot trading including Buy, Sell, etc.

S&P 100 Index Options

Table of S&P 100 index options including Call, Put, etc.

Treasury Bond Yield Falls at Sale

WASHINGTON (APX)—The U.S. Treasury said Thursday that it had sold 30-year Treasury bonds for an average yield of 6.97 percent.

Sears Sells Coldwell Banker Group

NEW YORK (Knight-Ridder)—Sears, Roebuck & Co. said Thursday that it had agreed to sell Coldwell Banker Residential Corp. to an investor group that includes Fremont Corp.

Time Warner in Fiber-Optics Deal

NEW YORK (Bloomberg)—Time Warner Inc. said Thursday that it had bought a 50 percent stake in MetroComm, a Columbus, Ohio, maker of fiber-optic networks.

Judge Rules Cigarette Makers Liable

GREENVILLE, Mississippi (AP)—Cigarette manufacturers are liable when their products cause cancer and death, even if the smoker knew of the dangers of smoking, a judge ruled.

Keene Seeks Asbestos Settlement

NEW YORK (AP)—Keene Corp., facing nearly 100,000 asbestos-related claims, asked a federal court Thursday to declare that it had too little money to pay claimants and to order its assets divided up in a class-action settlement.

U.S. FUTURES

Table of U.S. futures including Grains, Soybeans, Corn, etc.

U.S. / AT THE CLOSE

Table of U.S. market close including S&P 500, NYSE, etc.

Grains

Table of grain futures including Wheat, Corn, Soybeans, etc.

Soybeans

Table of soybean futures including Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, etc.

Livestock

Table of livestock futures including Cattle, Hogs, etc.

Food

Table of food futures including Coffee, Sugar, etc.

Metals

Table of metal futures including Copper, Aluminum, etc.

Financial

Table of financial futures including US Treasuries, etc.

Stock Indexes

Table of stock indexes including S&P 500, NYSE, etc.

Commodity Indexes

Table of commodity indexes including S&P 500, NYSE, etc.

Large vertical advertisement on the right side of the page, partially obscured by a 'Little Toes' logo and 'NASDAQ' text.



NYSE Thursday's Closing

Takes include the nationwide price up to the closing of Wall Street and no net trades late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

(Continued)

Table with columns: 17 Month High Low Stock, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks and their performance.

Table with columns: 12 Month High Low Stock, Div, Yld, PE, High, Low, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks and their performance.

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INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

Quotations supplied by funds listed. Not exact values. Quotations are supplied by the Funds listed with the exception of some quotes based on issue prices.

The marginal symbols indicate frequency of quotations: a - daily; / - weekly; (b) - monthly; (r) - quarterly; (t) - twice weekly; (m) - monthly.

Table listing various international funds with columns for fund name, share price, and other details.

AMERICAN HIGH-LOWS

Table listing American high-low stocks with columns for stock name, price, and change.

NEW HIGHS

Table listing new high stocks with columns for stock name, price, and change.

NEW LOWS

Table listing new low stocks with columns for stock name, price, and change.

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Large advertisement for Japanese Fruit of Y... and Amex... featuring images of fruit and text.







SPORTS

BASKETBALL

Knicks, 8 Back, Buzz by Hornets In Overtime

A Magic Man Visits Europe's Sin City

In Amsterdam, Johnson Turns Teacher On the Subject of AIDS and Safe Sex

By Ian Thomsen International Herald Tribune DEN BOSCH, the Netherlands — Magic, the Dutch-born American, is not the stranger offering hashish for one has ever implied that Magic used drugs — but the women. They were on exhibit, by the dozens. Magic... Hey there honey... Hello, Magic...

There are times, in his newfound dedication to the most important things, when Magic Johnson is like the camera overhead, and he is viewing himself below. And that is his new job. To keep an eye on himself, and how he mixes. But then sometimes the poetic glare breaks him to a halt, like this woman with the lips, neither dressed yet tantalizingly not undressed, the straddling the entrance between him and that bed — and staidly making that motion with her arm of shooting a basketball.

"To see some of those situations, how far behind we are, as far as their openness," said Magic Johnson, the American tourist. "As a young man I would have just been saying, 'Wow! You know what I'm saying?' He laughed. 'It's really something to sit there and see it, but then you don't gawk at it anymore. You study it.'"

"They control a problem that we've been trying to control. That's what went through my mind. Here they are, men want it, they can't get it no other way but to pay for it, so they legalized it. But then they just put it in this one area. I said, wow, these people are smart. If they're going to do it anyway, just go ahead and let them do it, but keep it tight here. It's really something. They study you. I guess the way they explained it to me was to get you to have your health checked out, and so it was really weird. It's not a bad idea to see what's going on."



Patrick Ewing tied up Alonzo Mourning, then the Knicks began unraveling the Hornets in the second game of their playoff series.

I'm not dying by no means. Not yet anyway. I'm going to keep going on. I'm still having sex, I'm still running, jumping, playing. Life doesn't change. He listened to the back and forth between the students and the mingling AIDS experts. How do you ask whether your partner has had unprotected sex? Magic, apparently, never raised that question when he could have, and how many times must he have exorcised himself for that. But then he waved away the debate.

"Whatever you ask him," he said to a teenage girl, "it really doesn't matter. If you like him, you're going to sleep with him. Really, if you have feelings for him, you're going to sleep with him. So then, if you ask me if I've ever done it without a condom, and if I want you, then I'm going to do it. Right? Especially when you're this young. We're lying together, and I'm going to sleep with you. You're the first one, the only one. You're the prettiest girl in school."

No matter what's happened in the past, it doesn't matter, because you can't trust them. If they don't have the condom, then they're waiting. It's just kissing and hugging. If they don't produce that condom, you don't, you don't, you don't. There's always the next day. You can always pick up where you left off."

Malone, Alex English, Kyle Macy and Marques Johnson, plus the Brazilian star Oscar Schmidt, all 35 or older and showing it. The effect was not unlike watching the Star Trek movies. It was some time ago that Magic was winning NBA titles for the Los Angeles Lakers with Legend teammates Bob McAdoo, who is 42, Kurt Rambis (35) and Michael Cooper (36). They each carry obvious deficiencies, except for Magic, the youngest among them. You had for him any day," said Chris van Dinten, who played for Monmouth College in West Long Branch, New Jersey, during Magic's NBA prime, and who guarded him Wednesday night. "The guy knows he's going to die, he knows he's going to die earlier than probably anybody else, but he's not going to be depressed about it. I bet he has a lot of personal tapes, but he doesn't show the world. He just keeps going. This is, like, his destiny."

For once, on carpet was hiding the floor, and one of the shooters wore lingerie or lipstick. The young Dutch led, 31-20, after the opening quarter, but then Magic began slashing, slaloming, twisting, spread-eagled like a dancer, and the scoreboard numbers increased on the old men's side like time replacing itself. They were going to win by a score of 142-128, but the game was effectively over with 13 seconds remaining in the half, when Magic grabbed the ball at the right elbow of the floor.

"Don't throw the hook," van Dinten warned him. A challenge. Magic's cheeks puffed, and his eyes filled like Dizzy Gillespie's as he crouched before the solo. Thud, thud, the ball like a drum beat, thud-thud, faster and faster. "You're not going to take the hook," van Dinten shouted, dancing in place, four seconds and three, when Magic hoisted himself behind his shielding shoulder, spun and tossed the hook — the hook — from 20 feet and ran away like it was a grenade. Swish. Buzzer. He shot his index fingers like a pair of revolvers at his teammates. They were all falling back in the chairs, kicking up their feet. The scoreboard said so: He made his points.

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

Table with columns for Major League Standings and National League. Lists teams like Detroit, Boston, New York, Toronto, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and their respective records.

HOCKEY

Table with columns for Stanley Cup Playoffs and Division Finals. Lists teams like Pittsburgh, NY Islanders, Philadelphia Flyers, Boston Bruins, etc.

BASKETBALL

Table with columns for NBA Playoffs and Conference Semifinals. Lists teams like Charlotte, New York, Philadelphia, etc.

SIDELINES

Auerbach May Need Bypass Surgery

BOSTON (AP) — Red Auerbach's cardiologist said Thursday the president of the NBA's Boston Celtics is in excellent condition after two procedures to clear blocked arteries, but that there is a 50-percent chance Auerbach will need a heart bypass operation in the next six months.

U.S. Draws Bahamas in Davis Cup

LONDON (AP) — The United States drew the Bahamas on Thursday and will host their Davis Cup World Group qualifying round matches Sept. 24-26, with the winner advancing to the World Group in 1994 competition.

For the Record

Frank Clark, who won a European Champions' Cup medal as a player for Nottingham Forest, became the English team's manager Thursday, replacing the retired Brian Clough.

By Clifton Brown

NEW YORK — After a tremendous game and a tremendous comeback, the New York Knicks escaped with another memorable victory. Trailing by eight points with 3 1/2 minutes left in regulation, the Knicks rallied to stun the Charlotte Hornets, 105-101, in overtime on Wednesday night in Madison Square Garden.

The victory gave New York a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven playoff series. And the game must have devastated the Hornets, who appeared to have a victory locked up going back to Charlotte for Game 3 on Friday night and Game 4 on Sunday afternoon.

Patrick Ewing, who scored 34 points, put the Knicks ahead for good with a 13-foot (4-meter) shot from the left of the foul line that made it 101-99 with 35.9 seconds left. Then the Knicks needed a big defensive stop, and they got it. With the 24-second clock about to expire, Del Curry missed badly on a 24-foot 3-pointer. The ball rebounded hard off the rim toward the left corner, where Alonzo Mourning tried to save it only to lose it out of bounds.

The Hornets fouled John Starks immediately on New York's next possession, and Starks made both free throws with 12.3 seconds left to give himself 25 points and put the Knicks ahead by four. Then, after Mourning missed wildly on a 3-point shot, Ewing broke down-court and dunked at the other end with three seconds left.

"It was an incredible, incredible game," said the Knicks' coach, Pat Riley. "I've been in 150 to 200 playoff games, but I've never been in anything like this. We were dead in the water for about six or seven minutes. But we hung on to the home court, barely."

The Knicks' effort would have won without Hubert Davis, who entered the game with 9:43 left in the final quarter and scored seven points. Trailing by 91-83, New York went on a 10-2 run to tie with 44.3 seconds left in regulation.

Ewing made two straight jumpers, then after Larry Johnson dunked. Starks made a jumper, Charles Oakley — who got 16 rebounds — made one free throw and Davis made a driving lay-up, followed by a 3-pointer that tied the score at 93.

"I was wide open because they were double teaming Patrick, and I just took my shot," Davis said of the 3-pointer. "It feels great to help the team. Was I surprised I got in the game? When he called my name, I looked the other way, then I thought, 'What is he doing?' But he called Hubert. So I knew it was me. So I went in there."

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